Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07291 251858Z ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 USIE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ACDA-07 OES-07 DLOS-09 NSCE-00 EPA-01 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 /147 W

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E O 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD

SUBJ: UNCTAD TDB: EXPLOITATION OF THE SEA-BED

- 1. IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I OF 17TH UNCTAD TDB, AUGUST 25, THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP, LED BY PERU AND CHILE, COMMENTED ON A REPORT PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT (TD/B/667), WHICH DESCRIBED IN VERY GENERAL TERMS THE RESULTS OF THE FOURTH AND FIFTH SESSIONS OF THE UN LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. THE LATINS SAID THAT THIS REPORT, SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNCTAD RESOLUTION 51(III), CONTAINED NO DETAILS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO SEABEDS. THEY REQUESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT PREPARE A SUBSTANTIVE DOCUMENT FOR THE NEXT TDB, WHICH WILL DEAL WITH THE LEGAL, TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES IN THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION OF THE SEABEDS.
- 2. THE GROUP B COUNTRIES PLAN TO CAUCUS FRIDAY MORNING TO PREPARE A RESPONSE TO THIS SUGGESTION. THE GENERAL CONSENSUS IN GROUP B SEEMS TO BE THAT WE CANNOT PREVENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 07291 251858Z

UNCTAD FROM PREPARING A REPORT ON THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS IN RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION 51 (III), EVEN THOUGH THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 64-1 (U.S.)-25 (MOSTLY GROUP B COUNTRIES). UNLIESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, USDEL WILL TRY TO GET THE REST OF GROUP B TO MAKE STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE OBLIGATION OF THE SECRETARIAT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE REPORTS TO THE BOARD, AS REQUESTED IN

RESOLUTION 51 (III), BUT POINTING OUT THAT UNCTAD'S ROLE SHOULD BE STRICTLY LIMITED TO REVIEWING THE RESULTS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE BEING CARRIED OUT ELSEWHERE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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